Report on the development of islands in the West Coast.

* 19 Q.—Sri A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state whether the report of the Special Officer appointed by the Government to investigate the possibilities of developing the Islands in the West Coast of the State has reached the Government, and if so, what steps the Government propose to take thereon?

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" Yes. The Government have called for the remarks of the Board of Revenue on the various recommendations made by the Special Inspecting Officer, and the Board is examining the report in consultation with the Collectors of Malabar and South Kanara. It is premature to say anything definite in the matter just at present."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know, Sir, how long it will take for the Government to pronounce its final opinion on the matter? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" I cannot exactly answer that question now. The report is being examined by the Government."

Sri A. APPU :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the disabilities of the islanders for want of communications, medical aid and educational facilities? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" These are the exact questions that have been dealt with by the Special Officer and they are being examined by the Government."

Sri T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what the important recommendations of the Special Officer are? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" I am afraid, Sir, I cannot deal with them now in detail."

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" May I know, Sir, when the report of the Special Officer reached the Government? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" On 31st March 1952."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know, how long ago was the Special Officer appointed? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" It was somewhere during the month of December last that an officer was appointed by the Government to investigate the possibilities of developing the Islands. His visit to the islands was delayed as no boat could immediately be made available to him. Meanwhile another officer was appointed and that was, I think, some time in January. The Officer took two months to report."

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SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" If a boat was not made available in time, may I know Sir, why the Officer had to be changed? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" By the time a boat was made available, the officer first appointed had to go on some other duties, and so another officer had to be appointed."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" While the Special Officere had taken only two months for investigation and report, the Government had already taken three to four months for examination of the report. May I know, Sir, how much more time the Government will take roughly for concluding the examination of the scheme? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" The recommendations of the Special Officer have to be studied by the Government very carefully before any pronouncement can be made."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message from the Hon. the Chairman, Madras Legislative Council, dated the 30th June 1952 :—

' I transmit a copy of the Madras Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Bill, 1952 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1952), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.' "

III.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS—*cont.*

MR. SPEAKER :—" I want to fix a time limit of 30 minutes for each speaker. I have no objection to giving more time to any hon. Member who wants more time to speak. The hon. Member Mr. Venkatasiviah may now continue."

* SRI P. VENKATASIVIAH :—" Yesterday I was telling the House that the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari and his Government have a peculiar conception of democracy. Democracy in this State is at present functioning on the strength of the police force and Ordinances, and it is not functioning on the strength of the people behind it. That certainly is the reason why this resolution of confidence has come before the House. The people at Aruppukottai and Kakinada have given a verdict that they have no confidence in the present Government. The general elections held earlier have also shown clearly that the Government do not enjoy the confidence of the people. By just asking for a vote of confidence from this House, the Government want to repair the damage of the defeat they had at Aruppukottai. The Government have brought this resolution of confidence knowing that they have a majority in this House. There must be